State of California DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS Division of Workers' Compensation

NOTICE OF MODIFICATION TO TEXT OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS (MEDICAL AND MEDICAL-LEGAL INITIAL LIEN FILING FEES)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Government Code Section 11346.8(c) that the Administrative Director of the Division of Workers' Compensation, exercising the authority vested in the Court Administrator (as that office is currently vacant pending an appointment by the Governor) and acting pursuant to the authority vested in the Court Administrator by Labor Code Section 4903.05, proposes to modify the text of the proposed amendments to Title 8, California Code of Regulations Section 10250 concerning the process and manner under which the Court Administrator will collect the \$100 dollar initial lien filing fee required of medical providers and medical-legal lien claimants.

PRESENTATION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS AND DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

Members of the public are invited to present written comments regarding this proposed modification.

Only comments concerning the proposed modification to the text of the regulation will be considered and responded to in the Final Statement of Reasons.

Written comments should be addressed to:

Marcela Reyes, Regulations Coordinator Department of Industrial Relations Division of Workers' Compensation Post Office Box 420603 San Francisco, CA 94142

The Division's contact person must receive all written comments concerning the proposed modifications to the regulations no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 20, 2004.

Written comments may be submitted by facsimile transmission (FAX), addressed to the contact person at (415) 703-4720. Written comments may also be sent electronically (via e-mail), using the following e-mail address: dwcrules@dir.ca.gov.

Due to the inherent risks of non-delivery by facsimile transmission, the Administrative Director suggests, but does not require, that a copy of any comments transmitted by facsimile transmission also be submitted by regular mail.

Comments sent to other e-mail addresses or other facsimile numbers will not be accepted. Comments sent by e-mail or facsimile are subject to the deadline set forth above for written comments.

AVAILABILITY OF TEXT OF REGULATIONS AND RULEMAKING FILE

Copies of the original text, the modified text with modifications clearly indicated and the entire rulemaking file, are currently available for public review during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays, at the offices of the Division of Workers' Compensation. The Division is located at 455 Golden Gate Avenue, 9th Floor, San Francisco, California. Please contact the Division's regulations coordinator, Ms. Marcela Reyes, at (415) 703-4600 to arrange to inspect the rulemaking file.

The specific modifications proposed consist of a change to subdivision (a)(2) of the text of Section 9779.5. A copy of the proposed modified text is attached to this Notice.

FORMAT OF PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS

Proposed Text Noticed for 45-Day Comment Period:

Deletions from the codified (emergency) regulatory text are indicated by strike-through, thus: deleted language.

Additions to the codified (emergency) regulatory text are indicated by underlining, thus: underlined language.

Proposed Text Noticed for This 15-Day Comment Period on Modified Text:

Deletions from the codified (emergency) regulatory text are indicated by italic strike-through, thus: *deleted language*.

Additions to the regulatory text noticed on January 23, 2004 are indicated by a double underline, thus: <u>added language</u>.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED CHANGES

Subdivision (a) is amended, in response to a comment received, to delete the provision that provides that for purposes of section 10250, the term "lien claimant" does not include an interpreter or a copy service.

Subdivision (f) is amended, in response to a comment received, to extend from 15 days to 30 days the time in which payment must be made on invoices for electronically filed liens.

Subdivision (h) is amended, in order to improve its clarity, to add a reference to an "agent" filing a lien for a medical provider or medical-legal lien claimant.